

CALYMPERES NYMANII (FL.) REESE, A NEW COMBINATION BASED ON
SYRRHOPODON NYMANII FL.

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The name Syrrhopodon nymanii ("-i") was published by Fleischer in 1904 for a new species of moss he described from Java, and has apparently been more or less ignored since then. However, it was published recently (and incorrectly) as a synonym of S. gardneri (Hook.) Schwaegr. (Tixier 1978, p. 1006), perhaps based on misinterpretation of Fleischer's Figure 31, that included S. gardneri as well as S. nymanii.

In any event, the moss described by Fleischer as S. nymanii is quite distinct in its own right and bears no relationship to S. gardneri except that they are both in the same family. The sole specimen that Fleischer had on hand when he described his new species was sterile, so that it was not possible to determine definitely that it represented Syrrhopodon or the closely related genus Calymperes. However, Fleischer did not hesitate to assign the species to Syrrhopodon: ("Ungeachtet der, wie bei Calymperes ausgebildeten Teniolen, ist diese Pflanze wohl ein Syrrhopodon"), even though he recognized that the plants had at least one Calymperes-type feature. He was especially impressed, as indicating a relationship with Syrrhopodon, by the elongate hyaline cells borne on the margins of some leaves in his new species. Such marginal cells are very well illustrated in Fleischer's excellent and diagnostic illustration of his S. nymanii; however they are not always developed and in some leaves, or even in entire collections, they may be very scarce or even lacking.

Recently, while I was reviewing specimens of austral Calymperaceae, I found a specimen of Fleischer's S. nymanii housed in the New York Botanical Garden (Malay Peninsula: State of Perak, 777, Lumut Diuching [?], March 1899, Ridley [?]) that bore the characteristic sporophytes of Calymperes, in which the capsule lacks a peristome and is enclosed in a persistent perforate calyptra clasping the seta below the capsule. None of the other specimens of this moss that I have seen have included sporophytes, but this is not unusual among the mostly dioicous members of this family. Thus this species can be properly placed in Calymperes. I have also noted three other names that are later synonyms of C. nymanii, as shown below.

Calymperes nymanii (Fl.) Reese, comb. nov.

Basionym: Syrrhopodon nymanii Fl., Musci Flora Buitenzorg 1: 213. 1904. Type: Java. Leiosolo, Palabuan, Sud küste, leg. Nyman (FH; isotype, L).

- Calmyperes kanakense Par., Rev. Bryol. 35: 50. 1908. TYPE: New Caledonia: Col d'annieu dans la Chaîne Centrale, fevrier 1907. Le Rat (isosytype, SP!). Syn. nov.
- Calmyperes sublaevifolium Par. ex Broth., Nat. Pflanzenfam., ed. 2, 10: 240. 1924. TYPE: New Caledonia: C. sublaevifolium Par. (isotype, SP!). Syn. nov.
- Calmyperes albo-limbatim Dix., Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales 55: 274. 1930. TYPE: Fiji, Vanua Levu, Labasa, on rotten wood, in mountains; June 1923; Greenwood 483 (BM!). Syn. nov.

Plants of C. nymanii are mostly very small and delicate, often glossy, and immediately recognizable by their strongly dimorphic leaves, some of which bear rather delicate, elongate hyaline marginal cells, mostly toward the bases. Plants of C. nymanii most closely resemble those of C. cougiense Besch., also with strongly dimorphic leaves, but leaves of the latter lack elongate marginal cells and do have well-developed teniolae instead. In both C. nymanii and C. cougiense, the strongly modified, ± elaminate gemmiferous leaves bear their gemmae right on the top of the bluntly enlarged apex, rather than ventrally on the leaf tip as in C. dozyanum, for which C. nymanii has been mistaken.

I have seen specimens of C. nymanii from Thailand; Malaysia, Perak; Borneo; Bangka Island; Java; Papua, New Guinea; Irian Jaya; Australia, Queensland; Fiji: Viti Levu, Vanua Levu; New Caledonia; and the Solomon Islands, San Cristobal.

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Literature Cited

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- Tixier, P. 1978. Le genre Syrhropodon Schwaegr. (Calymperaceae) en Indo Malaisie. Nova Hedwigia 29: 957-1023.